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KENSINGTON

Mrs. Morris K. Barroll has been spending some time with her son-in-law and daughter, Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. Walter F. Christmas, at their home in Philadelphia. Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. Christmas have announced the birth of a son, born December 30.

Miss Elizabeth Wanner left Monday for Miami, Fla., for two weeks.

Mrs. George W. Morey, county chairman of legislation, will be the speaker Monday at the regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Community Club. Mrs. S. Russell Hitchcock will be the soloist.

Mr. John Davidson has returned to Syracuse, N. Y.

Charles Rowdybush has returned to Ohio State University.

The new officers of the Woman's Guild of Christ Episcopal Church will meet today at the home of Mrs. H. M. Milburn, president. Other officers are: vice president, Mrs. J. R. Baker; secretary, Mrs. H. W. Wanner; treasurer, Mrs. Edward Farrell; house committee, Mrs. James E. Lamb and Mrs. Clarence A. Skinner; flower committee, Mrs. Robert L. Sciris and Mrs. Welles Meriam.

The Kensington Symphony, branch of the suburban division of the Symphony Association of Washington, will meet this afternoon with Mrs. Milburn.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO SUPPORT PARK BILL

Hopeful of linking the public park here with the Rock Creek Park system lying at the south of the town limits, the Kensington Chamber of Commerce will lend vigorous support to the park area bill to introduced as a Montgomery County measure at the State Legislature's forthcoming special session.

W. I. Cleveland, president of the trade body, declared that members of the chamber are to discuss the bill at their annual meeting, scheduled for January 22, and will outline a program for activity backing it when presented before Maryland's lawmakers in February.

The purpose of the bill is to enable the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to develop local park areas in the municipalities or special taxing districts where sentiment favors such an improvement and where the property owners so benefited are willing to bear the cost of the park.

Decision Up to Owners.

Under the terms of the measure the final decision as to whether the proposed park is to be constructed rests with the nearby land owners, against whom the cost of the project would be assessed by the Park Commission over a 10-year period.

This is to be accomplished by the holding of a public hearing to permit the affected property owners to express their approval or disapproval of the proposal after the Town Council or Citizens' Committee of a municipality or taxing area petitions the commission for such a development.

Holders of not less than 60 per cent of the land that would be benefited by such a development must approve the project before the commission would be authorized to proceed with the work. Failing of such approval, the proposal would be "scrapped" automatically under the terms of the bill.

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RED CROSS ROLL CALL GOES OVER TOP

Donald A. DeLashmutt, Chairman of the Montgomery County Roll Call of the American Red Cross, has announced that the recent Roll Call was one of the best if not the best ever conducted in the County. The quota of memberships set for the County by National Headquarters was 3,500 memberships and the goal attained in the drive was 4,147 or 647 over the quota. The total of funds raised by the drive amounted to $4,797.33.

Montgomery County with a population of some 49,000 has always stood high in per cent of population members in the Red Cross. At the last roll call in 1934 it attained a percentage of 7.02 which was higher than any other county in the State and also higher than the District of Columbia and Baltimore City. The membership enrolled this year boosts this percentage to 9.44%.

Chairman DeLashmutt says he wants to thank every District Chairman and each one of their workers for the excellent work done by all, because of which and without which this most highly successful Roll Call could not have been achieved.

Easter Island Has Many Puzzling Stone Images

For centuries explorers who have touched the shores of Easter island have stood in bewildered awe before the huge stone images of hideous men which stand, remnants of a mysterious people, not far from the Pacific coast of the island.

The images are roughly chiseled from lava quarried on the island, which lies several thousand miles off the west coast of South America. Some of the faces with their large noses and long pointed chins are still part of the rock in the quarry—left there for some reason at which we can only guess, writes a correspondent in the Washington Star.

Of the people who made them we know very little. They can scarcely be called artists, for the images are poorly made and show only a childish skill, with great heads out of all proportion to those we are now familar with.

But these people had a strange culture of their own, for in the small stone houses scattered over the little island are symbols which seem to be part of a written language. The symbols have not been deciphered, but they indicate an ancient culture on this far-away island.

Another question which baffles modern students of the problem is how the immense and heavy images were carried from the inland quarries to their present location on vaulted foundations near the shore.

Air Pressure Winds Clock

The medieval town of Orebo in central Sweden has a great clock phenomena, which has been going on keeping correct time since November, 1916, without being rewound. The clock is actuated by changes in air pressure. The movement consists of seven metal boxes which are affected by changes in atmospheric pressure. The movement which they receive from such variation of pressure is employed to draw up a weight which actuates the clock's hands.

Chinese Have Kitchen Gods

Most Chinese homes still have their kitchen god, in a picture, who watches over the household for twelve months and then, upon being burned up on New Year's day, goes to heaven to give his annual report on the behavior of the family. If they believe his report is going to be unfavorable, R. E. Gray, Shanghai, China, writes in Collier's Weekly, his picture is soaked in wine before the burning so he will become drunk and be refused admittance at the Golden Gate.

First Railroad in Ohio

The first railroad in Ohio, which ran from Adrian, Mich., to Toledo, was fostered by our northern neighbor, the Wolverine state. At the outset there was little confidence in the success of the enterprise. It was described in the Michigan legislature, which granted the charter, as merely "a fanciful scheme that could do no harm and would greatly please certain citizens of Toledo."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Slower Flying Birds

Woodpeckers, finches and thrushes are among the slower flying birds. They cannot keep up with a car at 20 miles an hour. Jays and orioles are about as slow, but barn swallows, going unevenly in one direction for at least 50 yards, will quickly get well ahead of a 40-mile speed.

AVERAGE NET WORTH OF FAMILIES RISES

Special Survey Shows Home Mortages Reduced.

Minneapolis.—The average insured family has 30 per cent more cash in the bank today than it had in 1933, and has reduced the mortgage on its home by 10 per cent in the same two-year period, according to a survey of 10,000 policy holder families by the Northwestern National Life Insurance company of Minneapolis.

An average reserve of $356 per family of cash on hand and in banks, was reported as of the spring of 1933 in response to the insurance company's questionnaire; this compares with $464 per family at the present time, an increase of $108, or 30 per cent.

A reduction in the size of the average mortgage from $3,464 in 1933 to $3,110 in 1935 was shown in the reports. Approximately 49 per cent of the policy holders investigated were home owners; the average home valuation was $5,301. Half of the homes owned were clear of encumbrance; the remaining 50 per cent were mortgaged.

The average amount of life insurance owned per family was $7,710 in 1933, and $8,199 in 1935, an increase of 6.3 per cent.

The average net worth of each family, including equity in home but exclusive of life insurance, was $2,953 in the spring of 1933, and had risen to $3,440 two years later, the survey showed, an increase in average wealth of 16 per cent. The 10,000 families were selected at random from policy holder lists.

A special survey of urban housing conducted in 61 cities by the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce showed a reduction in the average mortgage on owner-occupied homes of 3.29 per cent from 1933 to 1934. The fact that the reduction for the two years from '33 to '35 totaled 10.22 per cent in the insurance company's survey would seem to indicate that the average family is paying off its obligations at an increasingly rapid rate, the report concludes.

Common House Fly Found to Carry Million Germs

New York.—Two scientists recently examined 400 house flies to determine how important that common insect really is in the spread of germs. Securing flies from all sorts of places they found that the average number of bacteria carried per fly was more than 1,000,000, reports the American Institute of Sanitation.

"Under the microscope the fly appears like an animated feather duster. The legs and body are covered with fine hairs which carry countless germs from place to place. Each of its six legs have two hairy pads in which a sticky fluid is secreted. By means of these adhesive pads on its feet a fly can perform the novel trick of walking upside down on a ceiling. But those pads, so useful to the fly in defying gravitation, pick up all sorts of bacteria as the scavenger walks along.

"A single fly may alight on a dozen objects in a few minutes and leave an unseen trail of germs that would be appalling if made visible to the eye of a housewife. Yet it is easy to demonstrate scientifically that a housefly literally sheds germs with every step he takes."

Confederates Rejected Man Who Lived Century

Nashville, Tenn.—Too frail for the Confederate army, William M. Bess, Nashville citizen, was not too frail for the battle of life. He died at the age of one hundred, just 21 days before his one hundred and first birthday.

Full of vigor until the last days of his life, Bess was able to take a daily walk of about three-quarters of a mile. Until three years ago, he would "walk down to Nashville," a distance of nearly 12 miles, whenever he took "a notion."

When the Civil war broke out, Bess volunteered, but because whooping cough and measles had settled in his lungs, he was ruled too frail.

Chinese Girl Student Wins Maine Scholarship

Orono, Maine.—The University of Maine's School of Education held a scholarship contest.

First prize in English went to Miss Mary Chin Heung. Both her parents were born in China. She was born in Portland 17 years ago. Not only a good scholar, she stars, too, in baseball, basketball and field hockey.

Find Many Mental Ills Among Workers

Dallas, Texas.—Fully 50 per cent of all persons employed in American industries suffer form varying degrees of emotional or mental ill health, according to Dr. H. L. Pritchett, professor of sociology at Southern Methodist university.

Many men and women who are highly successful in business and are entirely rational, nonetheless suffer from emotional maladjustment, Pritchett said.

Relatively few people are engaged in the type of work they really wish to follow, he said. Most people are engaged as they are because of compulsion or circumstance.

Montreal, Largest in Canada

Montreal is the largest city of Canada, modern and its financial center, but gayly French in its way. It is an interesting combination of French and Scotch, the two most important elements in the founding and building of the city.

Iran and Iraq

Iran and Iraq are the official names respectively for Persia and Mesopotamia.

All Sorts of Muskets in Use During Revolution

In the American Revolutionary war the battling patriots of the new world carried all sorts of muskets, and a few were armed with the long rifle, later known as the Kentucky rifle. At Bunker Hill the British troops carried smoothbore muskets, and the farmers and militiamen who faced them likewise were armed with smoothbores, with the likelihood that a few of the last named carried the rifle that had been introduced into this country by German immigrants.

The smoothbore musket of the revolution, and the weapon with which a majority of Washington's troops were armed, was the French Charleville musket, says a writer in the Chicago Tribune. It had a maximum range of about 880 yards, or a half mile, and an accurate range of about 100 yards. If a soldier could hit a man or a horse at 100 yards with his musket he was considered a good shot, the order of the officers to the men then invariably being to "wait until you see the whites of the enemies' eyes." The long rifle, on the other hand, a weapon in existence at that time, had a maximum range, with a full charge of powder, of about 1,320 yards, or three-quarters of a mile, and was accurate up to 150 to 200 yards, depending entirely upon who was doing the shooting. Some of the most skillful of the marksmen of that time could shoot the old long rifle accurately at a distance of even more than 200 yards.

Close Weaving Is an Art Common With Araucanians

Araucanian textiles are beautiful examples of the craft. They are closely woven and have a deep, rich nap. They are prized also for their characteristic designs, the blending of colors and the quality of their dyes. It is well to know quality, however, for aniline dyes have in recent years gained some favor with the natives and replaced to some extent the vegetable coloring used for centuries.

Close weaving is an art which nature forced upon the Araucanians, states a writer in the Washington Star. Persistent rains at certain seasons of the year have led them to fashion cloth and robes as waterproof as possible. A variety of colors and striking patterns, make the garments gay and lovely.

Ponchos usually are woven with stripes or rectilinear designs. Sometimes a Greek cross forms the center of the pattern, and others have small squares with zig-zag sides. The back ground is usually blue or black and in bringing out the pattern, the Indians use a method which has been followed for generations. Upon the wool that is to remain white, the craftsman ties strips of leather or resistant vegetable fiber. After the dyeing is completed, the coating is removed.

Mistletoe First State Flower

The mistletoe was the first state flower to be chosen, Oklahoma making the choice in 1893. Since that time many states have chosen flowers and have changed from one flower to another. Selections have been made by vote of the school children, by vote of the state legislatures and some stand by general adoption. A national flower still remains to be chosen, the dogwood, rose, mountain laurel, daisy, columbine and golden rod having been suggested. The wild rose was chosen for the United States by vote of the readers of Nature Magazine, but no flower has been officially selected. The rose is very popular in state-naming lists, the District of Columbia selecting the American Beauty rose, Iowa and North Dakota, the wild rose, New York, the rose, and Georgia, the Cherokee rose.—Detroit News.

The Brown Thrasher

Graceful and alert, his reddish brown back, head, tail and wings make him blend into his surroundings so well that the sly Brown Thrasher is often overlooked. There are some black markings across the upper part of the wings. This black is bordered with white, so that two white bars seem to extend across each wing. The side of his head is light yellow-gray. The eye is pale yellow. The throat, breast and other underparts are pale gray, tinted with light brown. The undermarkings are black. His feet are brownish gray, and the beak is dull blackish brown. The Brown Thrasher ranks with the mockingbird as a songster.—Indianapolis News.

Violin Has Not Changed

While every other musical instrument of the modern orchestra, with the organ and piano, have undergone such changes in construction as almost to make them different instruments, the violin has not changed for the better in the last 300 years. Amati, Stradivarius, Guarnerius, and the others, found the perfect model, and although many attempts have been made to improve on it, they have resulted in failure. The Cremona type became the class model for the violin and it is accepted as such, universally.

May Be Cause of 'Quakes

Scientists believe that earthquakes are very rarely due to volcanic explosions below ground. We live on the solid crust of the earth, which is some forty miles thick and continually subject to slow earth movements. These put the earth's crust into a state of strain, which increases until it becomes too great at one point for the strength of the rock to resist. Then there is a sudden slip or rupture, which appears on the surface as an earthquake.

Degrees for Presidents

Forty-nine American universities and colleges have conferred degrees on Presidents. Collegiate honoring of Presidents began with George Washington and has continued almost uninterruptedly.

Step on Your Troubles

Jud Tunkins says troubles are like colds. It's unfair to scatter 'em around among innocent bystanders.

U. S. RENEWS FIGHT ON LOTTERY SALES

Fraud Orders Deal Blow at Use of Mails.

Washington. — Renewing its war against foreign lottery operators, the Post Office department has recently issued fraud orders against 450 residents of foreign countries, the longest individual list ever issued by the department. Notwithstanding the close watch maintained at the border by customs officers and the vigilance of post office investigators, foreign lottery tickets find a wide sale in the United States.

The results of the current offensive will be in proportion to the success of federal authorities in locating and identifying foreign distributors and in intercepting lottery material. Existing federal statutes, which carry a blanket ban on the sale of lottery tickets through the mails, are declared to be adequate. A more difficult job—one that does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Post Office department—is the prevention of the peddling of lottery tickets in the country—prohibited by the laws of most states.

Annual Sales $10,000,000.

Money sent abroad by Americans, either for the purchase of legitimate sweepstake tickets or "phonies," totals to a vast sum. The best estimates, based partly on the prize money won by Americans, place the value of ticket sales at $10,000,000 annually. In addition to the tickets sold for the Irish and other recognized sweepstakes and lotteries, thousands of counterfeit tickets have found an easy market in this country. Not only are counterfeits peddled in large quantities, but there have been many sales on fake sweepstakes. That is, the agents sell tickets, comb their "sucker" list, and then fold up completely, purchasers of tickets never hearing from them again.

The Post Office department receives a variety of information that is passed to its inspectors. Practically all the agents and distributors of tickets who use the mails reside outside the United States. When a customs inspector, a local postmaster, or any other federal official sees a large batch of letters in a single mail shipment, from the same address, suspicion is around. (Lottery agents customarily use first-class mail, in their efforts to build up a customer list).

Promptly Confiscated.

Though postal authorities have no authority to open first-class mail, they do have the authority, on suspicion, to stamp a letter: "Supposed to contain matter prohibited importation." When a letter so stamped reaches the post office of destination, the American addressee is required to open it in the presence of the local postmaster.

If the letter contains a lottery ticket it is promptly confiscated, and the Post Office department issues forthwith a fraud order against the foreign agent. The order is a double-barreled weapon. The Post Office department will not deliver letters from the foreign person or address, nor will it accept mail matter originating in the United States for names that appear on a fraud order.

Blame Henpecked Mates if Women Go Hysterical

Berlin.—"If women go hysterical their husbands are to blame in most cases, and especially the henpecked ones!"

This is the conclusion reached by Dr. G. Giehm, psychiatrist of a large sanitarium at Zepernick in the north of Berlin, as a result of an investigation of cases of hysterical women.

Writing in the German Medical Weekly, Doctor Giehm says: "As a practical consequence of this discovery the husbands should be treated and cured rather than their wives, in the first place."

Doctor Giehm found that the henpecked husbands were very sensitive, inactive, soft, over-careful, wavering men who covered up their weakness by pretending to be "kind and gentle" sympathizers with their wife's malady.

This kind of husband constitutes the greatest danger for the hysterical patients, he believes.

Best Pen Ever Found in Post Office, Woman Says

Newark, N. J.—The millennium is here, Postmaster Sinnott believes.

A woman walked into the post office, picked up a pen, dipped it in ink and began to write. As she finished, she scrutinized the pen carefully, and then walked to the inquiry window. Holding forth the pen to the amazed clerk, she said:

"Could you tell me what make this pen is? It's the best I have ever used."

This will answer all future critics of post office pens, chuckles Sinnott.

Monument Marks Grave of Friendly Sioux Chief

Chamberlain, S. D.—The first monument ever erected over the grave of a Sioux Indian chief, so far as the history of South Dakota reveals, stands on Medicine creek across the Missouri river from here. It marks the grave of Iron Nation, head of the Lower Brule, hereditary enemies of the Pawnees, Gros Ventres, Poncas and Crows.

Iron Nation was a prominent figure in the tribe for 60 years, the early ones being spent as a war chief. During his latter years he was a firm friend of the whites.

Largest Herd of Moose

The largest herd of moose on this continent is probably the one on Isle Royal in Lake Superior. The National park service estimates that there are more than 2,000 moose in this herd. The number is constantly increasing.

Alcohol on the Brain

Up to a drop of alcohol may be found in the brain of a person who has never touched liquor, says a New York university professor.

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